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MAILSTOP AMENDMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Robert KOCH, et al.
Serial No.	:	10/616,322
Filed	:	July 8, 2003
For	:	PLEAT OR CORRUGATION OF A BELLOWS OF A CONNECTION BETWEEN TWO HINGE-LINKED VEHICLES OR VEHICLE SECTIONS E.G., OF AN ARTICULATED BUS
Group Art Unit	:	3612
Examiner	:	Kiram B. Patel
Confirmation No.	:	000028107

Certificate of Facsimile Transmission Under 37 CFR 1.8

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Frank J. Jordan (Name) — (Signature and Date) 03/24/05

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Attached hereto is an English translation of the claims of German Reference DE-OS 26 17931. A German language copy of this German reference was previously filed in the Patent

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Office with the initial filing of the application on July 8, 2003. This German reference is also mentioned in the International Search Report and also on page 2 of the applicant's specification. This German reference was also used against the corresponding German application.

Since applicant previously forwarded a copy of this German reference to the Patent Office along with a concise statement, it is believed that there is no additional charge for filing this IDS. However, if there is a charge, please charge $180.00 to Deposit Account 10-1250. If there are any additional charges, please charge to the same Deposit Account No.

Respectfully submitted,

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English Translation of claims – DE 26 17 931

Patent Claims

1. A pleated bellows made of a material that can be lengthened to a limited extent only, preferably of a rubberized fabric, for the connection between two successive members of an articulated vehicle forming a corridor or more specifically a closed tube, all the pleats of said bellows having the same, quite small height so as to allow for the pleated bellows to extend or lengthen further in some regions as compared to other regions such as in the corners of the bellows, characterized in that in the regions of the pleated bellows in which the extendibility given by the height of the pleats cannot be fully utilized additional lengthening means are disposed between two successive pleats having the same height by means of which the bellows can be extended or lengthened in these regions to the same extent than in the regions in which the extendibility given by the height of the pleats can be freely made use of.

2. The pleated bellows as set forth in claim 1, characterized in that the additional lengthening means are additional pleats the height of which is smaller than the height of the normal pleats, said height being obtained from the difference of extendibility of the bellows in these regions and in the regions in which the height of the normal pleats may be fully utilized.

3. The pleated bellows as set forth in claim 2, characterized in that a plurality of additional pleats are disposed between two respective pleats having a normal height.

4. The pleated bellows as set forth in claim 2 or 3, characterized in that instead of providing the additional pleat or pleats the normal pleats are themselves bent in the region between two such normal pleats.

5. The pleated bellows as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 4, characterized in that the additional lengthening means continuously taper toward the regions of the pleated bellows that are not provided with said lengthening means.

6. The pleated bellows as set forth in any of the claims 1 through 5, characterized in that, as a result of the additional lengthening means, the extendibility and constancy of the pleated bellows varies in various directions.